

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 8-15 have been amended to correctly refer to the claims to which they depend.

Claim 16 has been cancelled.

The examiner has cited four references in a single paragraph 5 in a way which makes the rejections difficult to understand. The invention as claimed in claim 7 has features which distinguish it from each of the four references.

The examiner first discusses Mosier. Mosier has backing plates 11 which are flat (Figures 1, 4, 6). Epoxy binds the stack of abrasive discs 10 onto the backing plates 11. See Mosier col. 3, lines 60-64. Mosier discloses a grinding wheel having radial grooves, but does not disclose any support brushes. Mosier is not similar to the present invention or claim 7 in anyway.

The examiner next discusses White. White has a shaft 50, two caps 52 and 54 and a central body 56 having slots 58 for receiving ends 12', 12" of element 12. See White col. 3, line 59 to col. 4, line 7. White also discloses abrading unit in axially arranged grooves, but does not disclose any support brushes. White is not similar to the present invention or claim 7 in anyway.

The examiner next discusses the Japanese reference Ken. Ken has a flat base 10 and a flat holder 5. See the cross sectional drawing net to the Abstract. Ken's grinding sandwich parts 6 are gathered by a lever 11 and are slid upward through the holder 5. See the exploded view and the Abstract. Ken illustrates a grinding wheel in which the

elements are arranged in through-going holes, with no grooves in the grinding wheel surface. Ken is not similar to the present invention or claim 7 in anyway.

The examiner has not discussed Hanger. Hanger is also different since sandwiched papers are gathered by plate 65 and bolted 72 to the flat base 15. See Hanger col. 3, lines 50-54. Hanger is not similar to the present invention or claim 7 in anyway.

The applicant's invention as set forth in Claim 7 is new and unobvious. Claim 7 points out that the grinding wheel has a surface which has increasing height inwards from a periphery of the surface. As pointed out in the specification, page 2, line 29 to page 3, line 24, that new feature has several advantages. It additionally provides more stable and uniform grinding for uneven surfaces and easier removal and replacement of sand paper items and support brushes.

Claim 14 additionally points out the sand paper items are fastened in radial grooves in the surface of the grinding wheel and the support brushes are fastened in holes in the surface of the grinding wheel. These features are not found in any of the four references.

The present invention as pointed out in Claims 7-15 has the advantages of allowing sand paper items and/or support brushes to be exchanged or replaced together or individually. Locking means which are used to fasten the sand paper items and support brushes to the radial groove in the surface of the grinding wheel ensures the sand paper items stay secure during grinding, but remain easily exchangeable.

No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Feb 26 07 01:39p

J C WRAY

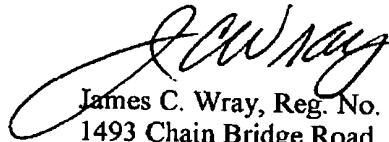
703 448-7397

p.9

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully,



James C. Wray, Reg. No. 22,693
1493 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 300
McLean, Virginia 22101
Tel: (703) 442-4800
Fax: (703) 448-7397

February 26, 2007

JCW:slw